



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
COLORADO FIELD OFFICE

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Cooperating with the Colorado Department of Agriculture



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CATTLE ON FEED

COLORADO

The number of cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in Colorado feedlots with a capacity of 1,000 head or larger was estimated at 890,000 head as of April 1, 2015. The latest inventory was 6 percent below March 1, 2014 inventory but no change from the previous month's revised inventory. The inventory included 610,000 steer and steer calves, down 3 percent from the previous year. The number of heifer and heifer calves, at 280,000 head, are down 13 percent from a year ago. Cattle feeders with 1,000 head or larger capacity marketed an estimated 140,000 head of fed cattle during March 2015. This was 3 percent below the previous month's revised marketings, but 8 percent above marketings one year earlier. An estimated 150,000 cattle and calves were placed on feed during March, no change from the previous month's revised placements, but down 9 percent from March 2014 placements. Of the number placed in March, 20 percent weighed less than 600 pounds, 17 percent weighed from 600 to 699 pounds, 27 percent weighed from 700 to 799 pounds, and 37 percent weighed 800 pounds and greater. Other disappearance for March, at 10,000 head, was 5,000 head above last month and last year.

UNITED STATES

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.8 million head on April 1, 2015. The inventory was slightly above April 1, 2014. The inventory included 7.46 million steers and steer calves, up 5 percent from the previous year. This group accounted for 69 percent of the total inventory. Heifers and heifer calves accounted for 3.34 million head, down 10 percent from 2014. Placements in feedlots during March totaled 1.81 million, slightly above 2014. Net placements were 1.74 million head. During March, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 365,000, 600-699 pounds were 275,000, 700-799 pounds were 449,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 720,000. Marketings of fed cattle during March totaled 1.63 million, 2 percent below 2014. March marketings are the lowest since the series began in 1996. Other disappearance totaled 69,000 during March, 6 percent above 2014.

For a full copy of the April 2015 *Cattle on Feed* report please visit www.nass.usda.gov.